GENERAL

1943

F.O. 371

REFUGEES

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GENERAL

1943

REFUGEES

W 12242

24 AUG 1943

Registry Number W 12242/12242/48

FROM Mr. Beasley
Foreign Office
Research Department.

SECRET

Dated 20th Aug.,
Received in Registry 24th Aug., 1943.

W : Refugees

Establishment of Zionist Control over the Board of Deputies of British Jews (1943)

Memorandum on the subject.

Last Paper.

References.

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1/9	out. 11/9/43.

Next Paper.

W 12341

(Minutes.)

The trend of Jewish organisation in this country appears to be towards the loss of its British character and the assumption of an international one. The British position vis-à-vis Jewry might be correspondingly weakened, were it not for divisions among the Jews themselves.

Influence of Eastern European Jews here as elsewhere is growing. (A thoroughly bad sign). Ian L. Hudson 27/8

RMAH 27/8

Eastern Dept.

Contacts

N of MB Depts.

Mr. Layton 29/8

I hardly think that Jewry will lose its British character - such as it has. It will concentrate for a time on Zionism & gradually lose interest after the war when other countries, now cut off, are once again open to them.

A. Walker

Ans R. 31/8

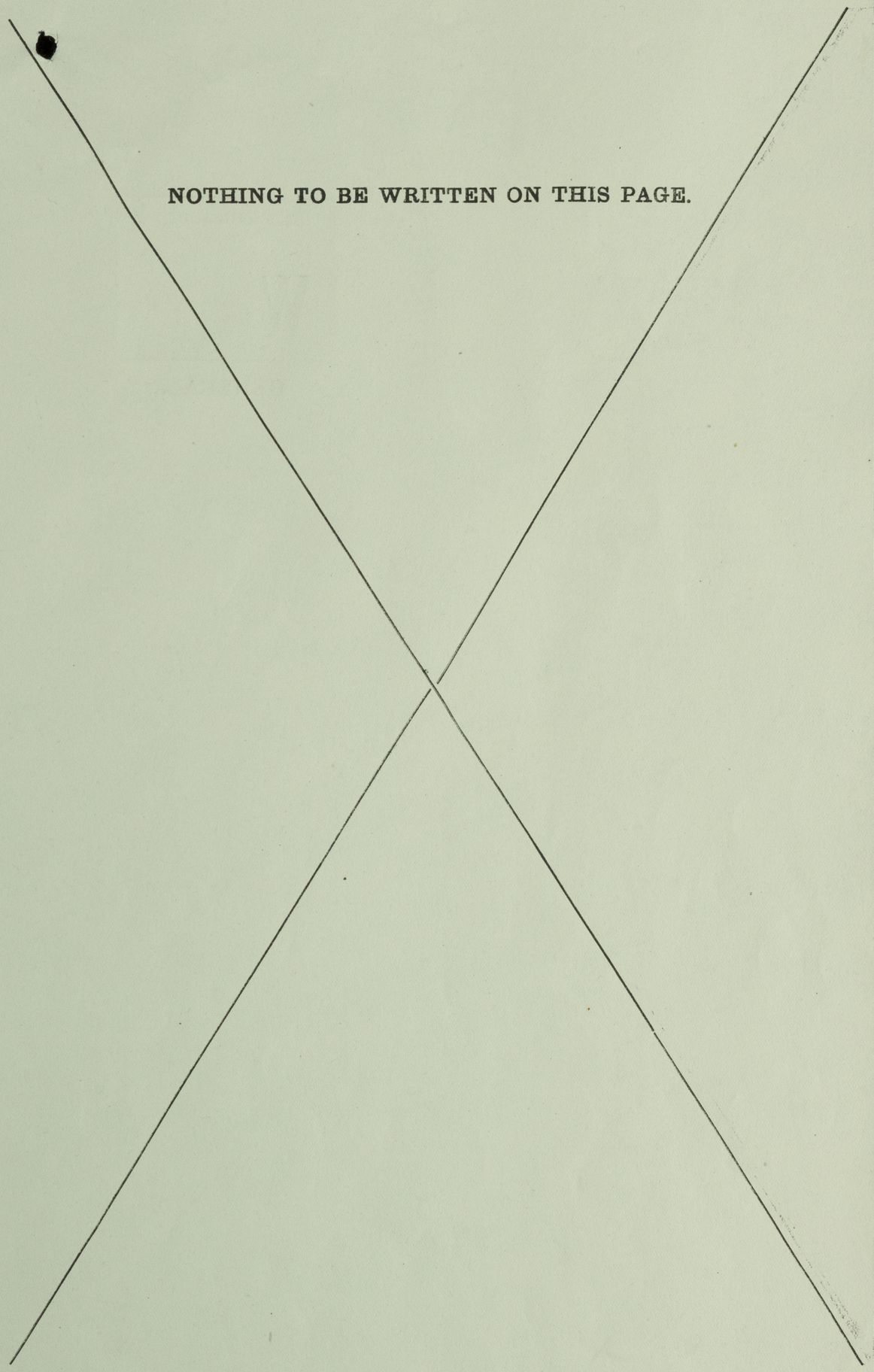
Ans R. 27/8

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GENERAL

W 2242
24 AUG 1943

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Prepared by Mr Bailey.

SECRET

WI 2242

24 AUG 1943

The Establishment of Zionist Control over the Board of Deputies of British Jews (1943)

1. The Board of Deputies of British Jews is an elected body, its constituencies being for the most part synagogues, though from time to time other institutions are granted the right of representation. The Board elected in 1940 had a membership of 313, of whom 264 represented synagogues and 49 had been sent by other institutions. The smaller synagogues are entitled, on payment of a fee of nine guineas a year, to one deputy each, the larger ones to an additional deputy (on the same financial condition) for every 100 members above the first hundred. The numerical representation of the other constituencies is determined ad hoc by the Board.

2. The Board used to elect 10 of the 14 members of the Joint Foreign Committee, the body through which the Anglo-Jewish community made representations to H.M.G. in favour of Jewish communities and individuals in foreign countries. The remaining 4 members of the Joint Foreign Committee were chosen by the Anglo-Jewish Association, a society with a small individual membership mainly representative of those Jewish families which have been established in the United Kingdom for several generations and which form the communal aristocracy. The Presidents of the Board and the Association were Joint Chairmen of the Committee, which lasted from its foundation in 1878 until July 1943.

3. A prominent Zionist, Professor Selig Brodetsky, became President of the Board of Deputies in 1939, and was re-elected without opposition after the triennial elections to the Board in 1940. The leaders of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, however, were dissatisfied with the degree of influence over the work of the Board and the Joint Foreign Committee given to them by Professor Brodetsky's position and by the pro-Zionist sympathies of the majority on both bodies. The Secretary of the Federation, Mr. L.Bakstansky, announced a short time before the

elections of 1943 that he and his friends intended, if they obtained a majority on the Board, (1) to elect two Vice-Presidents and a Treasurer who would form, together with Professor Brodetsky, a team of officers united on all major issues, and (2) to refuse to renew the agreement with the Anglo-Jewish Association, thus putting an end to the Joint Foreign Committee, and to replace the latter by a Foreign Affairs Committee of the Board.

4. To the new Board, which met for the first time on the 4th July, 420 members were elected. Of these, more than a hundred or roughly 25 per cent represented the Federation of Synagogues and its constituent bodies. The Federation, which consists mainly of synagogues in the poorer districts of East London, had reached an understanding with Mr. Bakstansky's group before the elections, and it was rumoured that much of its representation on the Board was paid for by a wealthy Zionist. However that may be, its bloc of over 100 members forms an important ingredient in what has come to be known as the Zionist caucus.

5. At the first meeting the caucus demonstrated its power, though it was not strong enough to carry the whole of Mr. Bakstansky's immediate programme. Its most intransigent opponent among the retiring Officers of the Board, Sir Robert Waley Cohen, was not re-elected, but it failed to unseat the other Vice-President or the Treasurer. On the major question of policy, whether or not the agreement with the Anglo-Jewish Association should be renewed, the caucus secured a sufficient but unimpressive majority of 6 votes, the motion for renewal being lost by 154 - 148. At the second meeting three weeks later, the nominees of the caucus obtained a majority on each of the Board's seven Committees, including the new Foreign Affairs Committee which subsequently elected Professor Brodetsky as its Chairman. The new Chairman of the Palestine Committee is one of the Hon. Secretaries of the British Section of the World Jewish Congress, Mr. A.L.Easterman.

6. During the lifetime of the old Board the Jewish Press had drawn attention to an incident, small in itself, which seemed

to indicate the possibility of another change in the character of the organisation. This was the admission to representation on the Board of the Jacob Ehrlich Society, a body of Austrian Zionists. While it could not be said that non-British Jews had previously been excluded from representation on the Board, since election by synagogues made any such restriction impossible, this was the first concession of the right to a body whose raison d'être was the non-British character of its membership.

7. The Anglo-Jewish Association has appointed a Committee to consider the situation arising from the termination of its agreement with the Board of Deputies, and to recommend a course of action. The leading members of the Association are reluctant to enter into competition with the Board by establishing a second foreign affairs committee which would make separate representations to H.M.G.; and they do not wish to take action which might give rise to the misconception that the Association is an anti-Zionist body. On the other hand they are obliged by the terms of their Charter to operate in the field of foreign affairs; and they believe that sooner or later they will be compelled to express their dissent from views put forward by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Board. An attempt to arrive at a working arrangement which would prevent disunity in the approaches of Anglo-Jewry to H.M.G. was made at meetings of the Officers of the Board and the Association; but it seems unlikely that agreement will be reached.

8. The issue between the two bodies is not one of Zionism versus anti-Zionism. The majority probably of the Anglo-Jewish Association and certainly of the opposition to the caucus on the Board of Deputies are sympathetic to the Zionist cause. They do not, however, in all circumstances follow the lead of the Zionist headquarters in Great Russell Street even on issues relating to Palestine. Still less are they willing to do so on the great variety of non-Palestinian questions with which the representative bodies of the Anglo-Jewish community are concerned. Meanwhile an

anti-Zionist organisation is in process of formation. Its membership will overlap to some extent with that of the Anglo-Jewish Association, and it will presumably wait until the policy of the latter has been announced before deciding upon its own methods of action.

9. The principal results of the crisis outlined in the preceding paragraphs will probably be: (1) that the policy of the Board of Deputies of British Jews will be directed by the leaders of the Zionist Organisation in this country; and (2) that views on the future of the Jews in foreign countries, notably on the continent of Europe and in Palestine, will be put before H.M.G. by two distinct bodies with differing outlooks - the one elected by a wide constituency but controlled in the last resort by an international organisation with a single objective, the other representing a small upper class of assimilated British Jews.

20th August, 1943.

Foreign Office Research Department,
Whitehall,
London, S.W.1.

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File Number :—

W12242

GENERAL.

1943

REFUGEES

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GENERAL

REFUGEES

W 12341

26 AUG 1943

1943

Registry Number W 12341/12242/48

FROM Foreign Office
Minute (Mr. Randall)

No.

Dated 15th July, 1943.

Received in Registry 26th July, 1943.

W: Refugees +

Zionist domination of British Board of Jewish Deputies

Attaches cuttings from the Jewish Chronicle of 9th July giving a long account of and a critical comment upon the recent decision by English Jewry to end the cooperation between the British Board of Deputies and Anglo Jewish Association in regard to their foreign relations. Zionist Jews may now be said to dominate the British Board of Jewish Deputies. One of the chief opponents of the Zionist and a member of the Anglo Jewish Association, now displaced from membership of the Joint Foreign Committee, Mr. Goodman, has stated that he thought one result would be that that the Anglo Jewish Association would form its own foreign committee.

Last Paper.

W 12242

References.

(Minutes.)

See also W 12242/12242/48

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Mr. J. Roberts

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Next Paper.

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W1234
26 AUG 1943

I attach cuttings from the Jewish Chronicle of July 9th giving a long account of and a critical comment upon the recent decision by English Jewry to end the co-operation between the British Board of Deputies and Anglo-Jewish Association in regard to their foreign relations. What has happened in effect is that the Zionist Jews, who are said to have packed the meeting by bringing many of their partisans from the country, have secured a monopoly of the foreign representation and may now be said to dominate the British Board of Jewish Deputies. This latter has hitherto been broadly representative of British Jewry and has included important non-Zionists elements. We have dealt with it as a fully representative body of British Jews with no political aims, and have under consideration an application from the Board for facilities for representatives to proceed to Canada.

One of the chief opponents of the Zionists and a member of the Anglo-Jewish Association, now displaced from membership of the Joint Foreign Committee, Mr. Goodman, has called on me and in the course of conversation with me on other matters said he thought that one result would be that the Anglo-Jewish Association would form its own Foreign Committee. I said that while we had no concern with the internal affairs of British Jews it was rather confusing if we were to have representations from two bodies claiming equally to represent them. Mr. Beeley, who, after consulting various Jewish representatives, is going to do a memorandum on the question, tells me that the setting up of a definitely anti-Zionist body of British Jews is also one of the possibilities arising from this controversy.

We should obviously not go back on any undertakings we have given to the British Board of Deputies, but in future we should bear in mind that Zionist aims will tend to dominate the British Board. This, Mr. Goodman even informed me, is deplored by Dr. Brodetsky, the Chairman, himself a Zionist, but he has so far been unable to withstand his more energetic Zionist colleagues.

A.W.G. Randall

15th July, 1943.

Eastern Department. 16/7

Central Department.

Mr. Lamb

Mr. Beeley.

Mr Roberts. 23 should see on return. Can it be brought up for him on Aug 1st? WTT 16/7.

H.B. 1/8

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

THE DEPUTIES CAPTURED

Caucus Triumph Against Strong Opposition

END OF JOINT FOREIGN COMMITTEE

The largest meeting in the history of the Board of Deputies assembled on Sunday when the first meeting of the new session following the elections of Deputies was held. Altogether 339 Deputies were present and the visitors' gallery was packed to capacity. The meeting lasted four hours.

A quarter of an hour before the meeting was due to begin the Adolph Tuck Hall was crowded and no more seats were available. Members entering were carefully checked to assure that they were duly elected Deputies.

The evidence of careful organisation on the part of Mr. Bakstansky's caucus was plain. The caucus members sat mostly together with Mr. Bakstansky on the front bench as leader and when the motion on the Joint Foreign Committee came up, the indefatigable Mr. Bakstansky had a requisition for a ballot duly signed by thirty members ready to hand in. This vote was taken by separating into opposite lobbies, and the caucus supporters were adroitly shepherded in the way they should go. A "Whip" had been sent round beforehand to each Deputy making plain the line of voting and the persons to vote into office as decided by the caucus. This "whip" was signed by (besides Mr. Bakstansky) Mrs. Israel Sieff, A. Bornstein, A. L. Easterman, J. Harris, N. M. Jacobs, N. Lazarus, F. Landau, Michael Levy, B. Lieberman, R. Lieberman, F. Nettler, H. Samuels, J. E. Sieff, and Aaron Wright.

The Federation of Synagogues and its constituents have returned over 100 Deputies.

Meeting Efficiently Handled

The handling of the meeting by the President, Professor Brodetsky, was very efficiently carried out. He himself refrained from speaking on the main issues, i.e., the proposal to abolish the Joint Foreign Committee and the election of the other three Hon. Officers (the President being unopposed).

The meeting was, despite the very strong feeling which prevailed and the temperature of the hall, commendably orderly. There were a number of able speeches, mostly delivered with good humour and restraint, though Mr. P. Horowitz, heroically defying the temperature, indulged in somewhat more vigorous rhetorical exercise.

There seems little doubt that a considerable body of Deputies who are Zionists refrained from following the caucus "whip." Nevertheless, the caucus largely triumphed. The Joint Foreign Committee was destroyed by them "according to plan" by some six votes. Sir Robert Waley Cohen, who did not attend, was turned out of office—again according to plan. And their nominee, Professor Samson Wright, was elected a Vice-President.

The total number of Deputies elected to date is 420.

As a result of the voting, the motion by Mr. L. BAKSTANSKY (Lodzer) that the Board shall at its next meeting elect a Committee for Foreign Affairs, to consist of the four Hon. Officers, ex-officio, and fifteen additional members of the Board, the Chairman of this Committee to be the President of the Board, was adopted.

At the beginning of the meeting, the President, Professor S. BRODETSKY (Leeds, United) read a letter from Sir Robert Waley Cohen (United Synagogue) conveying his deep regret that an imperative engagement of very long standing made it impossible for him to attend the meeting.

Result of the Elections

The result of the elections were announced as follows: Professor S. Brodetsky, President (unopposed); Dr. Israel Feldman (Great, London) and Professor Samson Wright (Spitalfields, Great), Vice-Presidents. The unsuccessful candidates were Sir Robert Waley Cohen, K.B.E. (United Synagogue), Mr. Barnett Janner (Leeds, United), and Mr. H. A. Goodman (Adath Yisroel). Sir Maurice Bloch, J.P. (Glasgow, Queen's Park), and Mr. M. H. Davis (Federation of Synagogues) withdrew their nominations. Mr. M. Gordon Liverman, J.P. (Dublin, United), was elected Treasurer (the defeated candidate was Mr. Isaac Landau [United Synagogue]). Mr. Joseph Meller, O.B.E. (Anglo-Jewish Association), and Lord Swaythling (Southampton) were re-elected Hon. Auditors in a contest, and Mr. Charles H. L. Emanuel was re-elected (unopposed) as the Board's Solicitor.

Professor Brodetsky expressed his very deepest thanks for the confidence which they had shown in him.

The motion that Mr. Neville J. Laski, K.C., ex-President of the Board, should again be elected as an Hon. member for the present session was agreed to with applause.

The question of the renewal of the agreement for a period of three years with the A.J.A. was discussed. Outlining the procedure that it was proposed to adopt, the President said he had already received a number of amendments to what would be proposed by the Chairman of the Law and Parliamentary Committee and it became quite clear to him that, if they carried on the discussion and then voted on amendments, one after another in the ordinary way, it would be impossible to arrive at any logical conclusion. Therefore, he proposed that they should have a discussion now in which they should deal with the whole question in general, and that they then take a vote on the motion put forward by the Chairman of the Law and Parliamentary Committee which should be a vote for some agreement or against some agreement. They would then not be voting on some particular agreement of the past, but simply on an agreement of any kind. When a vote on that had been taken they would be in a position to consider the amendments and deal with them in a logical manner.

He had received a request signed by 30 members asking that the vote in this matter should be taken by division. He pointed out that when 30 members requested a division that request must be granted.

The Board agreed to the procedure suggested being adopted.

Renewal of Agreement Recommended

Dr. Epstein, on behalf of the Law and Parliamentary Committee, said the Committee desired to recommend to the Board that the arrangement with the Anglo-Jewish Association in regard to the Joint Foreign Committee should be renewed on the existing terms for three years, and he formally moved the recommendation.

RABBI DR. SAMUEL DAICHES (Leeds Beth Hamedrash), in asking the Board to accept the recommendation, said that during the last 26 years since 1917, the Board had furthered, on several important occasions, Zionist endeavours, and under the Presidency of the late Sir O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid, the British section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine was established. The Board had spoken for the last 26 years for a united Anglo-Jewish community and he was deeply convinced that this unity should continue. The Anglo-Jewish Asso-

Continued on page 6

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[illegible]ONDON. E.C.I.

PARLIAMENT

POLISH NATIONALS AND MILITARY SERVICE

A Sharp Commons Debate

On the adjournment last week several members criticised a calling-up advertisement of the Polish Government. Nowhere in this notice, said Mr. Silverman (Lab., Nelson and Colne), was there any reference to the Act of Parliament giving the Polish Government the right to call up their citizens in this country, nor to the fact that those persons were not obliged to obey the notice at all. They might, if they chose—he said it was entirely at their own discretion—join our Forces instead, but the advertisement did not refer to that at all. Speaking of the kind of persons affected, Mr. Silverman said very many were people who had not been in Poland since they were a few months old. There were also political refugees who sought asylum here before the war. To hand those people over against their will to the power of the Polish authorities would be iniquitous, however well-intentioned the present Polish Government might be, and he thought were. The advertisement was a breach of the agreement made between our own Government and other Governments. "If you have reached an agreement that a man should have a free unfettered choice to join the British Army or the Polish Army, it is a breach of that agreement to say that you reserve the right to shoot him as a traitor because he exercises the option you have given him." Mr. Silverman argued against Mr. Ralph Etherton (Con., Stretford) that in fact this was what the advertisement did do.

For Those Who Were Misled

Mr. A. Edwards (Lab., E. Middlesbrough), who had originally raised the matter in a question to the Foreign Secretary about a constituent of his who was only nominally a Polish subject, said there were people here who lived in terror of being handed back to "certain people." He suggested that to show there was no backstairs understanding, Mr. Eden should ask the Polish authorities to extend to people who joined the Polish Forces through a misunderstanding a period of time in which they could freely transfer to the British Forces.

Mr. Etherton hoped the Government would continue to encourage the nationals of all our Allies to serve in the forces of their own countries. The notice, he declared, was a perfectly proper notice, in accordance with the laws of Poland. Mr. J. J. Lawson (Lab., Chester-le-Street) followed, saying he had been puzzled to know why this position arose in respect of the Polish Government and not, so far as he knew, in respect of any of the other Governments in this country. He begged the Polish Government to understand that there was no ill-feeling on this matter, and that those who were very great admirers of the Polish cause would like to see the spirit of the Act shown by the Governments domiciled in this country.

Government's View

Mr. Richard Law, Foreign Under-Secretary, in replying, said it was less than half an hour before he got to his feet that he knew the matter was to be raised, although that was no fault of Mr. Silverman's. He sketched just what the Allied Powers (War Service) Act did. At the time he thought it was fairly well known that some of the Allied Governments would have been very willing that they should have powers in this country not only to call up their nationals but to enforce the call-up of their nationals. His Majesty's Government, for one reason and another, did not see their way clear to giving that power, but what they did do under the Act was to recognise their power to call up their nationals. Answering points put by Mr. Kirby (Lab., Everton) and Mr. Martin (Lab., Central Southwark), Mr. Law explained that foreign nationals had a free and unfettered choice, but there was nothing in the Act to prevent any Allied Government explaining that if their nationals refused to accept the calling up notices they would be liable to the penalties under the law of their own country when they got back to that country. There was nothing in the advertisement which interfered with the freedom of a Polish subject in this country to refuse the call-up notice which the Polish Government had made.

"Palpable Ambiguity"

Mr. Silverman and Mr. Edwards jumped up to draw attention to "contradictory statements" and "palpable ambiguity," but Mr. Law, with his limited time to reply, declined to give way to them.

The calling up notice, he added, gave the people who came under the call-up the dates on which they had to register and so on, and said that persons who did not appear before the Consular Recruiting Commission by the stipulated time should be prosecuted for avoiding military service.

Mr. Silverman: That is not true.

Mr. Law: It says that the provisions of Polish law shall be applied to such persons. There is nothing in that statement which contradicts the Act of Parliament. The Act implies that the Poles have no power to enforce the call-up in this country. The Act does not say that the Poles have no power to enforce their own law in their own country. Mr. Law went on to assure the House that there was no agreement, written or spoken, implied or explicit, that men who paid no attention to the calling up

country who were still Polish subjects and of military age should join the Polish Forces. We ought to be rather careful about allowing subjects of Allied nationality necessarily to join the British Forces, because sometimes, he was given to understand, the motive was not that they might be allowed to carry on the battle against the Axis Powers but that they might be able to secure British nationality after the war.

OBITUARY

THE REV. S. FRAMPTON

The death occurred on Sunday, at Llandudno, at the age of 80, of the Rev. Samuel Frampton, Emeritus Minister of the Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation, Princes Road.

Mr. Frampton retired as senior minister of the synagogue in 1932, after occupying the post for 41 years.

The late minister was born at Portsea, and was trained for the ministry at Aria College in that town. His first ministerial appointment was at the Leazes Park Road Synagogue at Newcastle. He also acted as Visiting Minister to the Shields and Hartlepool Congregations. In 1891 he was appointed to the Liverpool post. Among many communal offices which he occupied were: Hon. Secretary of the Liverpool Jewish Board of Guardians (for 43 years), and of the local branch of the Anglo-Jewish Association; Chairman of Managers of the Liverpool Hebrew Schools and of the Liverpool branch of the Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women; and Vice-President of the Jewish Literary Society and of the local branch of the Ito. In 1906 he was appointed Lecturer on the Hebrew language to the Liverpool Board of Public Studies. He was a member of the Liverpool Hospital Sunday Committee and of the Court of Appeal Sub-Committee of the Liverpool Education Committee, and Vice-President of the Liverpool Port and Station Society.

In 1914 Mr. Frampton was a Vice-President of the Preachers' Conference. He was the author of "Joshua: An Annotated Hebrew Text," and was a contributor to the Commentary on the Prophetical Lessons in the Chief Rabbi's Edition of the Pentateuch and Haftorahs. In 1916 the deceased changed his name from Friedeberg to Frampton.

In recent years the Rev. S. Frampton lived in Llandudno, where he preached occasionally in the synagogue and was Chairman of the Religion Classes and a member of several committees. A tribute to him for his services to the Llandudno community has been received from Mr. M. Wartski.

MR. HARRY COHEN (Manchester), aged 62, was for 40 years connected with the Jews' School, and for the past 26 years was headmaster. One of his sons is the violinist, Mr. Raymond Cohen, who plays in the Halle Orchestra. Many prominent communal workers have been pupils of Mr. Cohen.

MR. LEON SUARES (Alexandria), aged 66, was a director of well known Egyptian concerns, and a supporter of the Jewish Hospital of Cairo and other charities. He was a Commander in the Egyptian Order of the Nile, and was the recipient of the Cross of Malta, bestowed by the Pope.

THE LATE COL. CAZALET, M.P.

[By our Lobby Correspondent]

"A tremendous loss to Jews" was the first comment I heard at the House of Commons on Tuesday on the tragic death of Colonel Victor Cazalet at the early age of 46. There were many more during the day from Members who had known his devotion to the Zionist cause among others.

He was known to Jewish audiences not only throughout this country but in the United States, and he had travelled all over Europe. A Christian Scientist, a bachelor and a teetotaller, he was a triple Oxford Blue—for tennis, lawn tennis and rackets. He had met all the prominent people of his time and was a generous host who entertained largely.

Entering Parliament in 1924 as Conservative Member for Chippenham, he kept himself so physically fit that he always seemed at ease, even while he was busy with much public work.

Besides his connection with the Parliamentary Palestine Committee, he was Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Refugees, which was formed before the war, and Chairman of the National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror, formed last March under the Presidency of the Marquess of Crewe.

I recall the speech he made about three years ago when the internment policy was raised in the House of Commons. It was characteristic of him that he disclaimed any false sentiment or false emotion, and confessed that he was animated by a sense of decency and a true regard of the fair name of both his country and the Government he supported. He had seen Jews in Dachau Camp before the war. He defined his attitude to the House of Commons in these words: "If a man is guilty, if there is the slightest suspicion that he has been guilty, or is likely to become guilty of in any way endangering the security and safety of the State, of course he must be interned. But if his honesty, patriotism and loyalty are beyond doubt, then I say let such a

Continued in next column

man out. Give him his liberty to join with us in fighting for that freedom for which he might have been fighting for many years already."

No one knew his devoted efforts on behalf of Palestine and the refugees better than Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., whose own activity in these causes is so well recognised. Miss Rathbone said of Colonel Cazalet:

"He never refused anything we asked him to do and he showed great courage in pushing these causes, even when it was unpopular to do so. He spoke at the first big Debate on refugees, which called attention to the injustice of the policy of wholesale internment. I can hardly think of any Debate on Palestine, or the refugee question, in which he did not take part. His death is a frightful loss to us."

Mr. H. Graham White, M.P., Vice-Chairman of the Parliamentary Refugees Committee, said:

"Victor Cazalet was distinguished for inspiring unselfishness in his sympathy and work for all distressed peoples. If there is any consoling feature in his death, it is that he died in action by the side of a man whom he loved, and serving a cause to which he was wholeheartedly devoted."

Sir Patrick Hannon said:

"He did most valuable work in securing the correct appreciation of the unfortunate and unhappy position of the Jews throughout the world. He had many interests. I knew him since he came into Parliament in 1924 and before, for I spoke in his support in his first election campaign in the Chippenham Division. Victor Cazalet was one of the most charming and attractive personalities in the House of Commons, simple, direct and inspiring. He made an immense impression on his public audiences. His outlook would have been most valuable to the nation in the time of the reconstruction after the war."

The following statement has been issued by the Jewish Agency for Palestine:

"The Jewish Agency for Palestine has learned with deep grief of the tragic death of Colonel Victor Cazalet. He was a true friend of, and undaunted fighter for, the Jewish people and Zionism, and his untimely death is an irreparable loss.

"Colonel Cazalet was Joint Chairman with Lord Wedgwood of the Parliamentary Palestine Committee and Chairman of the Committee for a Jewish Fighting Force. He was also Chairman of the National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror. He has always shown a keen interest in the Jewish building-up work in Palestine, and his advice and help were greatly appreciated.

"During his recent stay in Palestine he visited the headquarters of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem and conferred with members of the Executive. His return to London was eagerly awaited, for it was felt that he would bring with him the latest information on the position in Palestine, as well as messages from the Jewish Agency Executive in Jerusalem. He will be deeply mourned by the Jewish people."

THE LATE GENERAL SIKORSKI

The tragic death of General Wladislaw Sikorski, the Polish Premier, is deeply mourned not only by Polish Jews but by Jews throughout the world who saw in him a champion of human and democratic rights. One of the steps he took was to issue the declaration on the equal status of the Jews in reconstituted Poland.

Messages of condolence have been sent to the Deputy Premier, M Mikolajczyk, by the Jewish Board of Deputies, the New Zionist Organisation, the Federation of Polish Jews, the World Jewish Congress, and the Bund, among other organisations.

An article by our Polish correspondent on General Sikorski's death and the Polish political situation is printed in another column.

Our Lobby Correspondent writes:

Captain Alan Graham (Con., Wirral), as a member of the Anglo-Polish Committee, was one of the speakers who took part in paying tribute to General Sikorski in the House of Commons on Tuesday. In the course of his speech, he said that General Sikorski set his face against any discrimination against Polish citizens of the Jewish race. He insisted that if they fulfilled the obligations of citizenship, they were entitled to the privileges of it. In this, said Captain Graham, he gave a sign of the truly liberal quality of his statesmanship.

FIRE GUARD DUTIES FOR ALIENS

The Home Secretary, in a reply to Sir T. Moore on July 1, said that under the fire guard Orders which he hoped shortly to sign, aliens of certain specified nationalities who are exempted from Article 1 of the Aliens (Movement Restriction) Order may be required to perform fire guard duties. The Orders will cover the nationals of 19 Allied and neutral countries, aliens of enemy nationality, state- persons, and British protected persons. Chief rs of police and appropriate authorities or rtments will have power to object on security ds to the employment of particular aliens on d duties.

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CAUCUS ELECTIONEERING STATEMENT

"A Travesty of the Facts"

From Mr. NEVILLE J. LASKI, K.C.

To the Editor of THE JEWISH CHRONICLE

SIR,—The statements made by Mr. L. Bakstansky, reported in your issue of June 25, as to an alleged deputation to Mr. Anthony de Rothschild in 1939-40 at the time of my resignation from the office of President of the Board of Deputies, are a travesty of the facts.

It has been stated recently in commenting upon the present situation both in public addresses and in the Yiddish press that I had been contemplating standing as a candidate for the office of President of the Board and that I had been approached to this end. These statements are entirely without foundation. I have deliberately refrained from writing this letter until after the first meeting of the new Board for reasons which are obvious.

I am, &c.,
NEVILLE LASKI.
2, Paper Buildings, Temple, E.C.4.

DESTRUCTION OF THE JOINT FOREIGN COMMITTEE

A.J.A.'s Obligations

To the Editor of THE JEWISH CHRONICLE

SIR,—The situation created by the destruction of the Joint Foreign Committee has not yet emerged in full detail, but it appears that a breach has been created which will not easily be repaired. The Anglo-Jewish Association, it seems, will be compelled, in faithfulness to its trust, to set up its own diplomatic organisation, and will seek to re-start its constitutional machinery, which purposely and to avoid duplication has been allowed to lapse during the past few years.

One takes comfort in the knowledge that the Association is presided over by a man of the high principle of Mr. Leonard Stein, but with the forebodings you, Sir, have so eloquently enunciated, we can but fear the results—especially in regard to the future of Palestine—which the division will bring about.

At this hour it seems necessary to enter a plea for caution and restraint in speech and in deed. Let no one pour salt in the wound that has been opened; let all do their utmost to bring about a state of affairs which will facilitate its being healed. The Anglo-Jewish Association is represented on the Board, and one hopes that this representation will continue. One hopes, too, that members of the Board will not consider themselves bound to refrain from playing an active part in the affairs of the Association. I am sure that widespread sympathy will be felt for Mr. Stein, who, having sacrificed so much for the Zionist cause, has been placed in a false and bitter position through an organised Zionist *putsch*. The fate of Mr. Asquith in the hands of certain demagogues comes to mind. May the wisdom of the Jewish Community yet show itself.

It is necessary to add a plea for the tightening up of the electoral machinery of the Board of Deputies. That machinery was devised in an age when communal politics were conducted in a more gentlemanly spirit than is evident to-day. Certain elements which are most vociferous in their insistence on democracy are creating a Tammany Hall in the Community. That must be cleaned up

I am, &c.,
PROVINCIAL JEW.

THE CHIEF RABBI and Miss Hertz were among those present at the Albert Hall on Wednesday at a meeting in honour of China on the seventh anniversary of the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese war. Mr. Eden, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, addressed the assembly.



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THE DEPUTIES

Continued from page 13

stant consideration by the Central Council for Refugees and the Aliens Committee, who would consider what action to take at an appropriate time.

MR. [redacted]A. GOODMAN (Adath Yisroel) who had down a question about the Teheran children (which was given in last week's JEWISH CHRONICLE), was permitted to postpone the question until the next meeting of the Board.

The President, on behalf of the Board, congratulated Sir Lionel Cohen, K.C., who, since the last meeting of the Board, had received the great distinction of being made a Judge of the Chancery Division and had been appointed Chairman of the Committee on Company Law

The Board agreed that the following Committees be appointed for the new session:

Executive, 7 elected members, the Hon. Officers and Chairmen of Committees, ex-officio, and up to 3 co-options; Law, Parliamentary, and General Purposes, 18 elected members, Hon. Officers ex-officio, and up to 3 co-options; Palestine, 16 elected members, Hon. Officers ex-officio, and up to 3 co-options; Aliens, 14 elected members, Hon. Officers ex-officio, and up to 3 co-options; Finance, 8 elected members, Hon. Officers and 2 Hon. Auditors, ex-officio, and up to 3 co-options; Defence, 9 elected members, Hon. Officers and Chairman Law and Parliamentary Committee, ex-officio, and 7 (including 4 Trades Advisory Council), co-options.

The President moved the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:

"The Board of Deputies of British Jews, at this first meeting of its new triennial session, records its deep sympathy with all the victims of the Nazi terror, and its profound grief at the continuance of the horrors perpetrated by the Nazis in pursuance of their barbarous purpose to exterminate the Jews in their power.

"The Board recognises the desire, expressed on behalf of H.M. Government, to save Jews from the fate which threatens to overwhelm them, and appreciates the measures of rescue, though so far of a limited character, which have been announced as a result of the Bermuda Conference. The Board earnestly hopes and believes that these measures will be carried out with the utmost speed, and that every opportunity will be taken to adopt wider and more comprehensive practical steps so as to give effect to the sense of urgency expressed by the leaders of all the Churches, by both Houses of Parliament, and by every section of the public for measures commensurate with the needs of this unparalleled tragedy.

"The Board, on behalf of the Jewish Community of this country—who, as Jews everywhere, are fighting side by side with their fellow-citizens in the Armed Forces of the United Nations—shares the hope of all freedom-loving people that a speedy victory will put an end to oppressive tyrannies, and bring peace with justice to the Jewish people, as to all peoples of the world."

Mr. Gordon Liverman announced "that in the course of the next few days every Deputy would receive an important communication, and he asked them to take that as a request to place the issue of finance of the Defence Committee before their constituents, because nothing which they had discussed that day or any other vital work for the community could be accomplished without funds.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Board should be held on Sunday, July 25.

Committee reports and other items on the agenda were adjourned to the next meeting, owing to the lateness of the hour.

nomination of the Council would have to stand.

In moving Dr. Roth's re-election, Mr. Lewis Edwards said that Dr. Roth was the only one present who regretted that no other nomination had been received. The motion was seconded by Mr. S. Landman and carried unanimously.

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cure for our aching limbs. We beseech thee to aid us."

Then King Solomon, the tale goes on, commanded a troop of demons, saying, "Listen to me, demons. In Galilee, near the city of Tiberias, there is a fountain which flows like all other fountains with cold water. Go down to the depths of the earth and heat the waters of this fountain."

The demons obeyed the mighty king and hastened to dig to its very source and heated the fountain. Boiling water rushed forth, and that was the beginning, it is declared, of what are now known as the hot springs of Tiberias which cure rheumatism and suchlike illnesses. But Solomon, thinking that if the demons ever heard that he had in due course died they would stop their work, made them all deaf, so that they still continue to heat the fountains until this very day!

YOUNG ISRAEL LETTER BOX

AUNTIE'S CORRESPONDENCE

BERNARD AARONSON, Ross-on-Wye.—A hearty welcome to you. You must tell me all about the evacuation of your friends when you next write.

HILDA ALBERT, Dublin.—It is a pleasure to enrol another Irish niece. Many happy returns. I thank you very much for the birthday gifts and hope that you will soon have a pen-chum.

ANONYMOUS, St. Annes-on-Sea.—Your kind interest and help are always appreciated.

BARBARA BASSMAN, Salford.—Welcome to the League! I am afraid that I cannot send you those things, but I can put your name in the Exchange if you wish.

LAURENCE BASSMAN, Salford.—I am pleased to have you as a member. Have you ever been in one?

MRS. JULIA DAVIS, Bow.—It was good of you to send contributions in memory of loved ones.

HARRY FINEGOLD, Charfield.—My family is increasing rapidly this week and I am glad to add your name to my list of nephews. Thank you so much for the postal-order you sent towards our Special Fund.

GILLIAN GROSS, Stoke Newington.—I do hope that you and your bother are well again. It was good of you to send me the proceeds of your little concert, for which I thank you.

FELICE ISRAEL, Aylesbury.—A hearty welcome to you. I liked your nicely written letter.

DAVID ISRAEL, Aylesbury.—I am delighted to have another recruit. You are fortunate in having a special Hebrew teacher as well as one for nature study.

FANNY KATZ, Berkhamsted.—Dimple is a nice name. I hope that you are well again. Your new present will prove a very useful one. Mine is a very good friend.

HARVEY M. KATZ, Wandsworth.—I am ever so glad to hear of the safe arrival of Stuart Barry and

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The Deputies

Continued from page 6

the basis of an assessment of £9 per deputy per annum:

Representative Council of Manchester and Salford Jews (2 Deputies), Glasgow Representative Council (1), Leeds Representative Council (1), Workers' Circle Friendly Society (2), New Zionist Organisation (1), Mizrachi Federation (1), Anglo-Palestinian Club (1), Mile End Old Boys' Club (1), Leeds Jewish Institute (1), Trades Advisory Council (4).

With regard to the Workers' Circle Friendly Society, questions were asked as to whether its membership was entirely Jewish, and if not, whether there was a possibility that at some time a member might be elected to the Board, if their application were accepted, who was not of the Jewish faith. The Board agreed to the President's suggestion that the Law and Parliamentary Committee should go into the question before they were asked to vote on it.

MR. ISRAEL COHEN (Plymouth) moved the reference back of the recommendation on the N.Z.O. application. He did so, he said, because he believed that any body that applied for representation on the Board should be able to prove that it performed a useful function in the Jewish community and that its record was entirely free from any reproach or even from suspicion of reproach. The N.Z.O., he said, even since its foundation pursued a policy of sabotage against the interests of the Jewish National Home to which the Board had repeatedly pledged itself.

Mr. Cohen's motion was seconded, but was defeated.

MR. ROBERT EPSTEIN (Adath Yisroel) asked whether the reasons which applied to the Workers' Circle did not also apply to the Anglo-Palestinian Club.

MR. BARNETT JANNER (Leeds, United), who is Chairman of the Club, said it consisted of something like 1,500 members and had one lady who happened to be a non-Jewess and who was not permitted to vote on this issue.

The President pointed out that the question was not whether any lady was not allowed to vote; it was, could anyone be a member of the club who was not a Jew, and if the answer was in the affirmative, the matter must go back for consideration.

The Board and the T.A.C.

With regard to the T.A.C., Dr. Epstein said it was clearly understood that this representation (of four Deputies) was to make no difference whatever to the status and arrangement which were set out in the " treaty " between the Board and the T.A.C.

Mr. H. A. Goodman pointed out that they were giving four seats to a Sub-Committee of a Sub-Committee of the Deputies. The thing was becoming such a farce that in time the Palestine Committee, the Aliens Committee, and all the other Committees would ask for representation there.

The motion to refer back this recommendation was lost and the motion that the T.A.C. should have four representatives was carried.

Except for the two referred back, all the other recommendations were carried.

Many questions were asked of officers and Chairmen of Committees.

MR. DAVID BROTMACHER (Vine Court) asked what steps were being taken by the Board to formulate the demands of a united Jewry at the Peace Conference, and to gain them an adequate hearing. Who, he also asked, was responsible for the continued internment in Algeria of 310 Polish Jews, ex-members of the International Brigade, and what steps were being taken to secure their release?

With regard to the first question, Professor Brodetsky said he thought that those who were Deputies before the new elections would know that the Board had discussed the question of foreign policy, and the Joint Foreign Committee had been dealing with this matter, at numerous meetings. The question of getting a policy which would be supported by a united Jewry would, of course, depend upon getting co-operation with the Jewries in other countries, particularly in the United States, and also in other parts of the British Empire and South America. Steps had been taken to get in touch with them. As far as ensuring an adequate hearing was concerned, he could not answer that, except to say that they hoped that after this war justice would be done to the Jewish people as to all other peoples of the world.

Dr. Schwarzbart's Communiqué

With regard to the second part of the question, it was one about which an inquiry had been made by Dr. Schwarzbart, whose communiqué he read. Dr. Schwarzbart's communiqué stated that he had submitted a memorandum on May 26 to the Polish Government. The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs had informed him on June 8 that the Polish Consul in Casablanca had already reported in February last that all Polish citizens as well as persons of presumed Polish citizenship had been released at the request of the Consul from the labour camps and were now enjoying full freedom. A similar report had reached the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the Polish Consul in Algiers. In view of the recent complaints raised by the press, the Polish Consuls in Casablanca and Algiers had been requested by telegram to transmit at once an exhaustive report on the actual situation.

Another question asked was whether anything further was being done in regard to the communal tax suggested some time ago for financing the Jewish education of children.

DR. M. EPSTEIN (United Synagogue), who is Chairman of the Joint Emergency Committee, said no progress had yet been made, but it was hoped that some progress would shortly be made.

MR. HARRY GAVENTA (Melbourne, Carlton) asked would the President, with the approval of the appropriate Committee, make representations to the Home Secretary, following the precedent set by the American Government, to grant British nationality immediately to all aliens serving in H.M. Forces.

MR. H. S. SCHILDKRAUT (Order Achei Brith and Shield of Abraham), Chairman of the Aliens Committee, replied that the matter was under active consideration recently when the Act was passed to enable Frenchmen serving in the British Forces to obtain British nationality in response to a promise given by the Prime Minister on the fall of France. The Government did not at the time see its way to extend this privilege to other nationals serving in the British Forces. But the matter was under con-

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About Books

THE PRAYER-BOOK
Chief Rabbi's Annotated Edition

The Authorised Daily Prayer-Book. With Commentary by the Chief Rabbi. Part II. *National Council for Jewish Religious Education.*

Reviewed by Rabbi Dr. Isidore Epstein

The Chief Rabbi is indefatigable. His industry puts many a much younger man to shame. It is not very long since the first part of his Annotated Siddur appeared. In the meantime, publications one after another have kept on pouring forth from his study. Yet amid all this busy literary activity and other manifold preoccupations and cares of office he has been able to find the time and energy to prepare the second part of his Siddur, which he is now presenting in furtherance of his tireless educational endeavours on behalf of the Jews and Jewesses in English-speaking lands.

In this volume, which covers the Sabbath services, the Chief Rabbi contributes his illuminating notes and devotional reflections on the Siddur. The volume is a worthy sequel to the first, to which attention has already been drawn in these columns, revealing the same orientation, attitude of mind and distinctive qualities alike in form and substance. Like the previous volume, the present one is replete with many good things, instructive and wholesome. In addition to the notes of liturgical, devotional, and homiletical interest, the book is enriched by the inclusion of the Chief Rabbi's commentary on *Pirke Aboth*, which has already been the subject of an enthusiastic review in these columns (from the pen of Dr. Cecil Roth), and by the historical surveys introducing the several sections as well as a selection from Jewish Mediæval Moralists which appropriately follows the Ethics of the Fathers.

A Pleasure for Reader and Worshipper

The richness and charm of the work are not to be conveyed by an account of its contents. The Chief Rabbi has studied lovingly a number of commentators on the Prayer-Book and other relevant works, and in his own inimitable way has transmuted their words of wisdom into many a chiselled phrase, polished sentence, and perfect period. This effect is achieved with a simplicity which demands no forced attention from a tired mind, making it a pleasure for reader and worshipper to follow him as guide in matters of religious thought and teaching.

Dr. Hertz is well known for his capacity of taking great pains with his literary compositions. His favourite motto is: מוקק שבעתים. He believes that even the best can be improved upon. In this characteristic he reminds us somewhat of Rodin, the great French sculptor, who, as Stefan Zweig somewhere tells us, would often spend hours in touching up studies which he had at one time considered finished. It is to this passion for improvement that we owe the appearance in this volume of the Friday Eve service, although it is already included in the earlier volume. Apart from the obvious advantage of having the whole of the Sabbath prayers between the same covers, the revised form of the Friday Eve service as it appears in this present volume shows an improvement in several directions, including the addition of fuller notes and new liturgical matter.

Old Principles Freshly Stated

The great value of all the Chief Rabbi's writings is the fresh treatment which the old, eternal themes of Judaism receive at his hands. Ever alive to the "spirit of the age," he strives to combine consideration for the demands of criticism with a reverence for tradition and a confidence in its validity, stability, and strength. Yet "to err is human"; and the Chief Rabbi would be the first to acknowledge lapses from the high standard he set himself throughout his distinguished career. An example is afforded by his note on the Mussaph, where he endorses the decision of the late Dr. Friedlander in regard to references to sacrifices, conveying thereby a totally erroneous impression as to his real attitude in the matter. Quite apart from the basic consideration that current conceptions and judgments cannot be made the final measure of spiritual realities, the retention of references to the Sacrificial Service in our prayers must surely be insisted upon if only as corrective to the doctrine of Atonement, which occupies a central position in Christology! This, however, will not detract in the least from the gratitude of all religious-minded men and women in the Community to the Chief Rabbi for having made accessible to them by his Siddur the fruits of his learning and results of his labours, and thus mapped out for them the highway of religious devotion and Divine service.

A CHRISTIAN ON JUDAISM

Judaism and World Order. By HUGH J. SCHONFIELD. *Secker and Warburg*, 4s. 6d.

Reviewed by Dr. Cecil Roth

In this little work, Mr. Schonfield attempts to provide a popular companion volume to the series "Christianity and World Order," by the Bishop of Chichester and others. With notable impartiality and success, in which his Christian feelings do not obtrude, he gives a clear picture of what Judaism has meant, and what it has achieved, in the world, and what it can mean in the world of the future. For it remains for him a great potential spiritual force.

"The terrible grain of truth is that the Jews are at the bottom of all this New Order business," he writes. "They first inspired it, and they have never been able to stay out of it. They have a design for world domination, the domination of the world by the love of God and the principles of brotherhood, justice, and mutual service. If it had not been for Judaism the world would not have had these burning desires for a Messianic Age, for a Kingdom of God. Jews may forswear Judaism, but they cannot shake off its obligations to strive for the Millennium."

At the present moment, however, he feels that we are pursuing a mistaken policy. He calls attention to the fact that "before the situation became aggravated . . . there was something pitiful, and rather disgusting, in the Jewish fawning on highly-placed Gentile friends, the lavish adulation of those who would speak a favourable word." And he feels that "if in this grave hour of decision the Jews could have risen to the sublime heights of self-abnegation, if they could have unitedly externalised their thoughts, setting themselves to concentrate on caring for others . . . they might have won the approbation and love of mankind, and a new day would have dawned." It might be replied that to some extent we tried this in the Era of Emancipation—but what followed was not a new day, but a darker night.

But Mr. Schonfield thinks that it is not too late, and the "most consecrated elements" in the Jewish people and the Christian Church have all the essential qualifications to come together and to create a "holy nation" which could bring the new world order into being. He concludes by saying that there already exists in England a Society for the Constitution of a Holy Nation, with a growing following of Jews, Christians, and others. I am not quite sure to what he is alluding—it is certainly not to the Zionist Organisation. But I have a shrewd suspicion.

In a series of Appendices, Mr. Schonfield republishes the statement of the United Nations of December 17, 1942, concerning the treatment of the Jews; the inaugural statement of the Council of Christians and Jews; and a list of world benefactors of Jewish faith or heritage. The list includes the name of Mme. Curie: but the fact that her father's name was Sklodowska is surely no indication of Jewish extraction.

THE
Jewish Chronicle
THE ORGAN OF BRITISH JEWRY • INCORPORATING THE "JEWISH WORLD"
102nd Year ספר זכרון Established 1841
JULY 9, 1943—TAMMUZ 6, 5703

ZIONIST LEADERSHIP ON TRIAL

THREE hundred and thirty-nine delegates attended the meeting of the Deputies last Sunday and by a slender majority voted the Board into the power of Mr. Bakstansky's Caucus. The new proprietors, for reasons not difficult to divine, are now bravely denying that proposition, and as the chief organiser had previously announced that he really was out to capture the Board, this amounts to a declaration that he was defeated. But even the dullest wits will not be deceived by this unwonted modesty. The Board has, in very truth, been captured, and the sooner the Community at large wakes up to that fact the better.

It is true that, as the Duke of Wellington said after Waterloo, the struggle was "a damned close thing," The results achieved were only rendered possible on the one hand by the complete failure of the non-Caucus Deputies to organise, and on the other by the muster of "backwoodsmen" who, in some instances looking quaintly out of their element, and carefully shepherded according to plan, obediently registered their support for the Caucus. But the stark fact remains that, at the end of it all, the Caucus was left in possession of the Presidency, and of half the number of Vice-Presidents, and that it slew the Joint Foreign Committee, again in accordance with plan. In due course, there can be no doubt, it will proceed to mop up the various Committees, securing these strong-points with or without appropriate camouflage. With the aid of its Zionist levies and those from the Federation of Synagogues, this should not be difficult. Whether it will continue the Palestine Committee in existence now that the whole Board has become a Palestine Committee, is for our new lords and masters to decide. The fate of the Executive Committee, however, seems little open to question. That body, like the rest, will be condemned for all effectual purposes to wear the livery of the Caucus bosses. Such is the position, as it stands after Sunday's fateful gathering.

Clearly, it cannot be left there. The Anglo-Jewish Association, for instance, whose co-operation in the protection of foreign Jewries has been repudiated, is compelled under its constitution to interest itself in the welfare of these coreligionsts. If it proceeds to perform this duty, there will be two organisations knocking on the doors of harassed Government Departments, and both intent on the same mission in hand. Nor is it thinkable that the grave domestic problems which may presently arise should be decided upon by men whose appointments and whose whole *raison d'être* in public life have nothing to do with domestic administration or policy but have been solely concerned with Zionism. Many of them may, for all we know, share the arguable view that all that matters is Zionism and that as soon as the Zionist goal is achieved the diaspora may just as well disappear.

Some may think that, after all, nothing need now be done about it. They may glance wistfully at the voting figures, and argue that in practice the Board seems to be so equally divided that the Caucus will always have a hard task to make its decisions law. This wishful thinking ignores the realities of the position. The non-Caucus members, many of them living in the distant provinces, will not attend Board meetings whose decisions will be determined beforehand by the fiat of Great Russell Street. On the other hand, the delegates of the Federation of Synagogues and its constituents—totalling over a hundred, or 25 per cent of the Board—and the followers of the Caucus (including the majority of salaried Zionist officials) will be always on the spot to respond to their master's voice and do as they are bid. The non-party Deputies are without the organised efforts and power which the Caucus can and does use to meet any emergency and make its wishes prevail. So that it is a case of wistful hopes and inertia and the compelling distractions of business or professional life against concentrated and sleepless activity on the part of those who will always be there. Of the issue of that unequal conflict there can be no shadow of doubt. The easy talk, therefore, about the Caucus "not having it all its own way," of its "near defeat" on Sunday, and the consequent complacent attitude of letting matters slide can be at once dismissed.

Two alternatives offer. Those who were so narrowly beaten on Sunday could now organise on similar intensive lines to that of their opponents, and become a sort of "His Majesty's Opposition" (or some such equivalent) equipped with whips, officials, offices, and all the paraphernalia of party administration, and in due course run the elections from their headquarters. This would entail a heavy permanent expenditure and it is very doubtful if any such organisation could secure the necessary and regular funds. Much more serious, it would turn the Board into a mock Parliament with all the objections connected therewith. It would make it a cockpit of party strife, of huckstering and of intrigue, at a time when it desperately needs to be a deliberative assembly discussing how, with mutual amity and give and take, it may help to save the Jewish people. It would mean that when the Peace delegates assemble British Jewry would be revealed as childishly absorbed in the Party game. And there is even then no guarantee that under the handicaps already mentioned the Opposition would secure a fair share of consideration.

Yet, either this is the pass to which the Community will have to reconcile itself, or—the second alternative—the sane and forward-looking Zionists will persuade the Caucus to retrace its steps. Even the Caucus, flushed though it may be with success, can be asked to pause for a moment. Under the impact of its assault, the Board is no longer a free representative body of British Jewry but a partisan Committee meddling in Anglo-Jewish communal affairs. The Board, as it has existed for many generations, is to all intents and purposes defunct, and the Caucus has captured —a corpse. How in the name of common sense can the Zionist cause, the most important cause in Jewry to-day, be said to have gained from its death? How will it profit from the fact—flaunted in the public's eyes—that its membership has to a large extent been captured by an electioneering caucus claiming to work in the interests of Zionism? The manœuvre has evoked the strongest disapproval and the gravest apprehension of a number of profoundly ardent Zionists whose political acumen permits them to look beyond the petty victory of last Sunday to the tragic bill that will have to be paid later on. Many such Zionists, by the way, are known to have voted against the Caucus in last Sunday's decisions. Many of those who supinely permitted this operation of capture to go forward, satisfying their conscience with the lazy fallacy that it was anyhow a stroke for Zionism, are now bewailing the possibility of a communal split. They should have thought of it before they allowed disruption to proceed on its course while they held their peace. But it is not too late, even now, for them to help undo the mischief.

Victories can be bought too dear. Let us remind the Zionist leaders of what happened at the Restoration of the Monarchy in this island, when King Charles II was brought back to his domain. The great, all-powerful Cromwellian Army still existed. It was absolute and undisputed master of England. But, looking around, it saw nothing but deepening national desire for the King's return and the prospect of national weakening and ultimately of widening strife. And accordingly the all-powerful Army preferred to disband—one of those supreme acts of political far-sightedness which have revealed the true source of England's greatness. If those who have brought the present trouble on the Community will face up to its ultimate dire results, if they will exhibit the same broad statesmanship, the same political horse-sense, the same loyalty and indifference to personal sacrifice which marked the conduct of Englishmen nearly three centuries ago and have since been manifested at every supreme crisis in the story of this island, or if having won the day they now seek some wise and generous accommodation with those whom they have defeated, abandoning the stranglehold of the Board which they have so unwisely assumed, they will play the part of good Jews as well as sensible practical men. Failing it, the prospect must be disturbing, if not bleak. And as it takes material shape it will not be only the Jews of Britain who will suffer but their oppressed brethren abroad, and, most serious of all, the very cause, Zionism, which it has so misguidedly been sought to foster.

Are the Zionist leaders in this country big enough to do the brave and the wise thing?

IDENT OF CAIRO MMUNITY

ttaui Tradition

Correspondent—CAIRO]

in succession, within a century, ttaui family has been appointed ewry with the election of Mr. René Cattaui bey to the Presidency of the Cairo Community.

The youngest son of the late Joseph Cattaui Pasha, who was Minister of Finance and Communications in the Egyptian Cabinet, and Mme. Cattaui Pasha, First Lady-in-Waiting to the Queen-Mother of Egypt, Mr. René Cattaui bey was born in Cairo in 1896 and was educated at Lausanne, Switzerland. He represents the constituency of Kom-Ombo in the Egyptian Chamber of Deputies, of y Jewish member.

of some of the most important ustrial concerns of the country, r of the State Economic Council d'Egypte.

nt of the Cairo Jewish Com- d the title of Bey in 1931. He in the Order of the Phœnix icer in the Orders of the Legion , and the Iftikar (Tunisia).

outh Mr. René Cattaui bey has erest in local Jewish affairs, on, where his cultural activities tion have often proved an im- adaptation of the community to uired by the Near East's rapid

EWISH CONFERENCE PARATIONS

ionists Join In

ium composed of Dr. Stephen S. he American Jewish Congress), (President of the B'nai B'rith), M. Proskauer (President of the mmittee), are to direct the busi- erican Jewish Conference during preceding its opening on August

as approved the application of ganisation to participate on con- elf in the elections not as N.Z.O., of Zionist Revisionists.

rganisation of America, the Order Sons of Zion have issued branches throughout the country f of local delegates who are more programme.

results of the elections of dele- erence comes from New York. f the Zionist candidates were se was the overwhelming victory ngarian Rabbi, Bernhard Berg- who obtained the largest num- next most successful candidate phen S. Wise, President of the ongress, who received 300 votes Bergman.

gue in New York announces that he request of Dr. Wise (who is bbi) for leave of absence for the Dr. Wise said that the pressure cessitated his request. He will

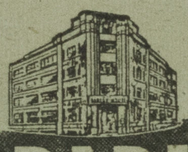


WISE MEN'S MEETING

RABBI JOSE BEN JOEZER said, "Let your house be a place of wise men's meeting."

The admonition is excellent but it must be remembered that to attract the intelligent to your home you must offer them food for thought and argument on a high intellectual plane, otherwise your salon will become the happy hunting ground for bores and pedants. DARLEY HOUSE, the home of NOVELTEX worsted, Scotch and finetwist suitings has become the meeting place for the wise and discerning in the woollen world because long and happy experience has taught them that there they will find quality worthy of their cultivated taste. Their time will not be taken up with viewing inferior designs and cheap materials. From the least expensive to the really costly lines NOVELTEX offers the finest value in woollens to-day.

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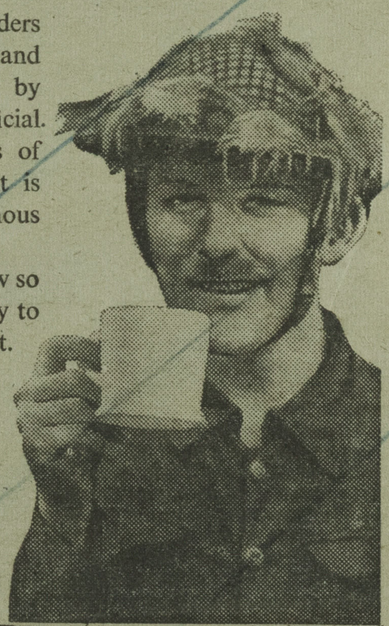
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.M.C.A. is now so need for money to ents is urgent. needed as the e war unfold. send a contri- nal Y.M.C.A. Service Fund large a sum ou can spare.



TIONAL Y.M.C.A. WAR SERVICE FUND P.22
(Registered under the War Charities Act, 1940)
Earl of Athlone, K.G., G.C.B. 112, Gt. Russell St.,
Y.M.C.A. War Service Fund. London, W.C.1.
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of London (Sir Samuel Joseph).

: : to the National Y.M.C.A. War Service Fund.

o your cheque or P.O. Every contribution will be acknowledged.

File Number :—

W 242

~~1943~~

GENERAL.

1943
REFUGEES

3

GENERAL

1943

REFUGEES

W15236

2 NOV 1943

Registry Number W 15236/12242/48

FROM Anglo-Jewish Association.

No.

Dated 29th Oct., 1943

Received in Registry 2nd Nov., 1943.

W : Refugees.

Formation of Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association.

The Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association have set up a Committee for the purpose of dealing with matters relating to the position of Jews in foreign countries as the Board of Deputies of British Jews, with whom they formerly acted, have decided not to renew the agreement between the two bodies. Gives composition of the Committee.

Last Paper.

W 12341

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

See W 12242.

Q. W. ltd. comply with the request in para 3.

Dft. submitted.

Ian L. Henderson

4/11.

Mr. F. K. Roberts.

Mr. Beeley tells me there is a prospect of healing the breach. but in the meantime we shd. certainly agree to be as polite to the A.J.A. as to the British Board.

A.W.G.R.

4/XI

I.L.H.

5/11

this correspondence is to be circulated to the other members of the Board? Beeley tells me. I told him I saw no objection.

10/11

(Action completed.) 10/11

(Index.) m.H. 10/2/44

Next Paper.

25695 7/43 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

TELEPHONE :
Euston 1331

ANGLO - JEWISH ASSOCIATION

Founded 1871—5631

PRESIDENT :
Leonard Stein
VICE-PRESIDENTS :
The Chief Rabbi
(The Very Rev. Dr. J. H. Hertz, C. H.)
Anthony de Rothschild
TREASURER :
L. G. Montefiore, O.B.E.

WOBURN HOUSE,
UPPER WOBURN PLACE, W.C.1

W15236
2 NOV 1943

29th October, 1943.

The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

Sir,

On behalf of the Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association, I have the honour to inform you that the Council have set up a Committee for the purpose of dealing with matters relating to the position of Jews in foreign countries.

2. During the past seventy years the Council have, on a number of occasions, approached the Secretary of State on such matters. For the greater part of that time they have acted in conjunction with the Board of Deputies of British Jews through the medium of a Joint Committee.

3. The Board of Deputies has decided not to renew the agreement between the two bodies. In default of a new agreement, the Council trust that the Secretary of State may be willing to extend to them the same facilities for placing their views before him as have been accorded to them in the past.

4/.....

4. The Committee mentioned in the first paragraph of this letter is authorised to act on behalf of the Council and is composed as follows:-

The Chief Rabbi (The Very Rev.Dr.J.H.Hertz,C.H.),
Viscount Bearsted (Vice-Chairman),
Sir Robert Waley Cohen, K.B.E.,
Mrs. F.S. Franklin,
Mr. H.A. Goodman,
Sir Philip Hartog, K.B.E.,
Mr. Neville Laski, K.C.,
Mr. L.G. Montefiore, O.B.E. (Vice-Chairman),
Mr. D.D. Raphael, (Honorary Secretary),
Mr. Anthony de Rothschild,
Mr. D.I. Sandelson, O.B.E.,
Mr. Leonard Stein. (Chairman).

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Leonard Stein

LEONARD STEIN.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. W 15236/12242/43

OUT FILE

5a

I.L.H.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

6 November, 1943.

Draft. H.U.S.

Mr. L. Stein,
Anglo-Jewish
Association,
Woburn House,
Upper Woburn Pl.
W.C.1.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 29th October regarding the formation of a Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association,

I am etc. to ~~inform~~ thank you for the information ~~that he is willing~~ kindly given. ~~to extend to the Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association the same facilities~~ I am to assure you that the Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association will receive the same facilities as ~~for placing their views before him as~~ are afforded for placing their views before H.M.G. ~~have been accorded to them in the past.~~

I.L.H.

5/11

(Sd.) A. W. G. RANDALL

Mr. F.K. Roberts,
first.

Ank.

15236/12242/48 OUT FILE

S.W.1.

6th November, 1943.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 29th October regarding the formation of a Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association, I am directed by Mr. Winston Churchill to thank you for the information which you have kindly conveyed. I am to assure you that the Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association will receive the same facilities as in the past for placing their views before His Majesty's Government.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) A. W. G. RANDALL.

L. Stein, Esq.,
Anglo-Jewish Association,
Woburn House,
Upper Woburn Place,
W.C.1.

File Number :—

W

GENERAL.

REFUGEES

1943

Zionist Domination of British Board of Jewish Deputies. Code 48 File 12242. 1943. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO 371/36741. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/AMCOCT096618243/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=1efca386&pg=1. Accessed 18 Apr. 2022.